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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 20 | Min 20 | Humidity % Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain Sensex 55,816 | Nifty 16,641 | Gold 50,730 | Silver 60,000 | Dollar 79.89 | Euro 88.87 | GBP 96.25

CITY PAGE 2

Covid-anxious Parents worried over covid cases demanding hybrid classroom

Door-to-door Passengers want platform screen doors due to Metro rush

CITY PAGE 3

'City's dense forest cover of 1,44,717 ha in 2005 down to 33,696 ha, a decrease of 76% — in effect, 40% loss in annual carbon sequestration'

CARBON COPY

'Bengaluru's green cover of 68% in 1970s is 4% now'

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The annual carbon sequestration capacity of Bengaluru city has degraded by over 40% in recent years, according to a study published by researchers at the Indian Institute of Science and Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur.

The study said the carbon sequestration capacity of the city was 5,787 Gg of CO2 in 2005 (Gg is a unit of mass equal to one million kg) — it went down to 3,374 Gg of CO2 in 2019.

The study showed Bengaluru experienced a drastic decrease in the area under dense forest cover.

The city boasted a dense forest cover of 1,44,717 ha in 2005; it went down to 33,696 ha in 2019, registering a decrease of around 76%.

According to experts, low carbon sequestration capacity is due to the loss of green cover.

"The city had 68% of its area under green cover in the 1970s. Today, it is only around 4%. Loss of green cover brings down the carbon sequestration capability of the system and accelerates climate change. We are already noticing oxygen deficiency in Bengaluru. Many people with lung issues are using oxygen cylinders now," said Dr TV Ramachandra at the Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc, who is a co-author of the study.

According to Dr Ramachandra, a drop in dense forest cover amounts to forest fragmentation, which is the greatest threat to biodiversity and water sustenance in the area.

Moreover, ecosystem services provided by a dense patch or a contiguous forest are markedly different when it becomes patchy.

"Intact forest areas around the city and across the state are increasingly becoming fragmented; this will manifest in the form of higher incidence of human-animal conflict. Moreover, when forests are fragmented, water availability becomes an issue. We have studied areas with intact forest cover and documented water availability in these areas throughout the year. In fragmented forest areas, water availability

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

> **We are noticing oxygen deficiency in Bengaluru... People with lung ailments are using oxygen cylinders...**
> — Dr TV Ramachandra, co-author of study, IISc

Infra woes, info delay

KAUSHIK JN

Applicant alleges KSPCA delaying information for more than a year

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka State Police Complaints Authority (KSPCA) is expected to examine complaints of police excess/harassment and dispose of complaints or petitions without delay. The authority was envisaged to be a model of punctuality and responsibility.

Now it is alleged that the KSPCA has been delaying information for more than a year.

Jagan Kumar J of Vijinapura near Ramamurthy Nagar submitted an application to the KSPCA in July 2021 under the Right to Information Act 2005 seeking information on the number of complaints received by the KSPCA and District Police Complaints Authority.

"It has been more than a year and the KSPCA has not provided the information on one pretext or another. It is directing me to appear before it. Where is the need for the applicant to appear before it to get the information that was sought?" wondered Kumar.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 For all shopaholics

The festive season is around the corner, so gear up your fashion tastes as Pehnava by Shuba Jagan is in town. The exhibition will have 40 designer brands from across India.
When: July 30, 11 am - 8 pm; Where: Vivanta by Taj, MG Road; Tickets: Free

02 It's time to disco!

DJ Pratik is coming up with his disco and Bollywood tunes for Bengaluru. Embrace yourself because the night is going to be full of good music, dance and food.
When: July 29, 8:30 pm
Where: Shift lounge bar and kitchen, HSR layout
Tickets: Free

03 Funfair

If you are looking for art that can move you, this is the right place. OpenMArt is a one of its kind experience with a flea market, live calligraphy, tarot card reading and a lot more.
When: July 30-31, 11 am onwards
Where: Artkhoj, JP Nagar
Tickets: bookmyshow.in

DOUBLE WHAMMY: COVID SCARE & FLU BLUES

Parents want online mode of learning back

Schools see dip in attendance of 20 per cent in pre-primary and 10 per cent in secondary

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Fever, cold and upper respiratory tract infections are in the air, and many children are falling prey to them. The students are missing out on school, and some of the parents think that schools should go back to online classes.

Worried that the children will catch the infections and miss out on studies, parents are demanding classes to shift back to the online mode or a hybrid model.

Sijo Sebastian, a member of the Voice of Parents Association, said, "My elder one was impacted by covid in the last week of June, there was no online class option provided, and he missed the classes. Last week I had to pick up my younger one from school since he had a fever and cold. In both cases, there was no option of online classes, and kids missed the class for several days."

Azeez Khan, another parent, said, "With close contact of children in school. Many are falling sick. My son is in 9th grade, and he had a fever and cold and had to miss school for a week. He missed out on his class tests which will not be rescheduled later. Online options for those who can attend classes online should be brought back at least during this season. Or the hybrid model needs to be started where 50 per cent can attend classes online and other 50 percent offline."

The schools have observed a dip in attendance too.

Nancy Syntika, Principal, Orchids-The International School, Sahakara Nagar said, "The attendance in our school was overwhelming during the beginning of this academic year as students were excited to attend physical classes. Attendance dipping down during monsoon is common, but this year it is slightly higher in percentage as the fear of the fourth wave of covid has parents panicking. On certain days it dips up to 15 per cent, and in pre-primary up to 20 per cent too. But on average, it is a 10 % dip on regular days during this season."

We have sent advisory notes to all parents to keep children at home if they don't feel good or if there is even a slight hint of cold and cough, as the flu is very contagious. We want to avoid inconvenience to other students as much as possible, she added.

Schools have sent advisory notes to parents to keep children at home, if they have cold as the flu is very contagious

> **"We conduct remedial classes for students to learn the portions missed by them**
> – Aloysius D'mello, principal

Aloysius D'mello, principal of Greenwood High International School, states that the inclement weather is making many children fall sick. However, there seems to be no drastic drop in attendance. "Children who are sick and on leave are urged to come to school only after complete recovery. They are also screened for any possible covid symptoms before being allowed to join the class regularly. The option of giving a medical certificate is given to the parents. No options for online classes are being given to them.

"We conduct remedial classes for them to be taught and learn the portions left unattended by them instead." said D'mello Meanwhile, teachers say that getting back to the online system might be difficult for them as conducting both online and offline classes are very challenging.

...Or a shift to hybrid

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Anxious over the increasing covid cases among school children, parents are demanding a hybrid model (both online and offline classes) in Bengaluru's schools.

"Last week, my daughter who is in 8th grade came home with a fever. At first, we were very anxious that it is covid but it just turned out to be viral fever. But she had to miss classes for more than a week, in which the teachers did not assist her in any way to complete her coursework. It's the parents who have to figure out a way to help our kids at home. The covid cases are increasing among school children and so many of them are missing out on their syllabus," said Veena Ananda, a parent.

Parents say that since schools have the infrastructure, the hybrid model won't be difficult to adopt. "We just want the students who are sick to get an option to attend online classes. I know we cannot go back to online schooling again and a hybrid model might increase the workload on schools, but we have to decide what is best for our kids," Ananda added. Parents are also concerned that the schools are not following the covid norms, putting the students in danger.

"If you go to any school and sit for one hour you will see that so many teachers, bus drivers and conductors, and other staff members do not wear masks once they are inside the campus. Why make children scapegoat like that? Social distancing is not even possible in a place with so many children. Some parents let their children go to school even with mild flu-like symptoms, in a time when even a small cough causes so much anxiety," said Ankit G, another parent.

"This time children seem to be more vulnerable to covid than the previous waves and I think part of the reason is offline classes. Improper covid behaviour at schools can be very dangerous, especially when children below six years of age are not even vaccinated," he further added. Parents also say that many students have been having a hard time adjusting to physical classes after two years of virtual learning.

School administration, on the other hand, thinks that it is necessary for the schools to come back to offline mode.

Schools think that it is necessary for them to come back to offline mode

Sunil Fernandes SJ, Principal of St. Joseph's Boys' High School, said, "When we talk about the covid situation, we are not just talking about the city schools. So many children from the rural areas had to drop out of school during the first and the second wave. Finally, we are able to get education back on track. Of course, if covid cases increase we can always go back to online classes. We can also try to implement hybrid mode for classes 9 and above for now."

Metro passengers want platform screen doors

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High-rush metro stations in Bengaluru are in dire need of platform screen doors to be installed for safety purposes, commuters complain.

Platform screen doors are used at metro stations to separate the platform from the train tracks.

"Some metro stations like Kempegowda are always crowded. In the evening and morning hours, there are so many people at the station always pushing each other. Although there are home guards on duty who keep a watch and try to manage the crowds by making them stand in queues near the platform, it can still be dangerous. Especially for younger children. When there is so much crowd, anyone can trip and fall," said Karthik G, a college student.

According to reports, BMRCL had shown interest in installing these doores at underground metro stations back in 2018.

Installing platform screen doors in preexisting, functional metro stations will entail a lot of technological upheaval, making the process tough

However, 4 years later, this is yet to happen.

Another commuter, Vinaya K, said, "I lived in Delhi for 3 years and there they have these doors at the platform edge in many stations. It just feels much safer. I get really anxious when someone is standing very close to the edge and there is no screen. I hope they install these doors soon. At least in a few stations where they are really needed."

BMRCL has decided to install screen doors at underground stations in the upcoming corridors:

12 underground stations on Dairy Circle-Nagawara, and two at Airport City and KIAL terminals on KR Puram- Airport corridor.

However, whether the existing metro stations in the city will get screen doors or not is still a question.

BL Yashwanth Chavan, BMRCL Chief Public Relations Officer, said planning for the installation of such doors in existing stations is currently ongoing. Stations are being surveyed for this purpose.

Apart from playing an important role in passengers' safety at metro stations, these doors also reduce the load on the air conditioning system at platforms.

Sci-fi policing

Google Maps will soon help with real time speeding alerts in Bengaluru

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The project also aims to reduce congestion in the city

Vehicle users in the city may soon get speed limit alerts on Google Maps. City police have tied up with Google to provide speed limit alerts so that the vehicle users don't cross the speed limit. Currently, motorists need to cough up a hefty penalty if they break the speed barrier as traffic interceptors have been placed at vantage points to keep a check on speeding.

Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) BR Ravikanthe Gowda said, "We have partnered with Google to provide real time road traffic for Bengalureans. The technological partnership is helping in reducing traffic congestion. In fact, we are the first city police to take up this project with Google where the tech giant's Artificial Intelligence and real time updates are helping the traffic management. According to our data, there is a reduction of 20 per cent in waiting time at select junctions per driver. As the wait time reduces, it will also reduce instances of road rage, fuel consumption, and pollution."

The city's population is projected to touch 1.3 crore with an additional floating population of 1.5 million. Currently, traffic police are managing 14,000 km of main roads in the city. The city has a whopping 44,000 junctions, out of which 1,000 have been categorised as crucial. There are 998 busy traffic junctions, out of which 398 have automatic traffic signals and the other 600 are managed by traffic personnel on the ground.

Bangalore Mirror

Technology to replace cops at 50 junctions

From body cameras to automatic number plate recognition, cops want more technology

On July 11, 2022, BM had reported about 50 junctions across the city embracing technology

Gowda said, "Managing traffic in the city is a humongous task. Hence, we are using technology as a key to improve traffic conditions. For us, technology is necessary for enforcement, education, and awareness. Besides this, technology is also helping us to move from contact to contactless enforcement. We have used technology to synchronise traffic signals which is resulting in the decrease of travel time. We are happy that technology is bringing efficiency, transparency, and evidence-based law enforcement. Now, we want to scale up the usage of technology across traffic junctions."

He added that the partnership with Google had helped commuters get live updates on road closures due to accidents and other reasons.

Alternative routes will show up in such cases.

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DULT readies 'chill zone' at Visvesvaraya Towers

More than Rs 75 lakh has been spent to develop a vacant spot ideal for visitors

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Good news awaits those visiting Visvesvaraya Towers to meet government officials for various purposes. Following years of no dedicated space for visitors at the premises, the government has now spent more than Rs 75 lakh to develop a vacant space for the same. The project was taken up by the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT).

After availing the administrative approval on October 7, 2021, the DULT assigned Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Limited to beautify the space at an estimated cost of Rs 75.30 lakh.

The work began on December 1, 2021 and was expected to be completed by March 30, 2022. As of now, most of the work is complete, with electrical work pending. The space, with amenities such as benches and elevated platforms, is already in place. It aims to be the perfect spot for senior citizens who visit the Department of Empowerment of the Differently abled and Senior Citizens to relax for a while. There are provisions to ensure sufficient greenery to make the place pleasant for visitors who frequent Visvesvaraya Towers.

People visiting the place want DULT authorities to make arrangements for opening the space to the public as early as possible.

"I welcome the DULT for developing the vacant space for the benefit of hundreds of people who visit Visvesvaraya Towers for various reasons. All these years, the space was not suitable for people to wait or relax during lunch hours. I appeal to the authorities to ensure completion of the pending works," said Venkatesh Murthy, a visitor.

Amenities such as benches and elevated platforms are already in place within the dedicated zone

"The space is ideal for people who want to take a selfie here, or for cyclists who want to relax for a while as the track is very close
– DULT engineer

Appreciating the DULT for selecting the right space for the project, Krishna Kumar, another visitor, said, "It is already delayed by four months. I want the authorities concerned to take measures to ensure the contractor completes the pending work. If it is opened, it will be a suitable place to relax for not only visitors but also employees working at Visvesvaraya Towers during lunch breaks."

Kiran Kumar, also a visitor, said that the authorities should create awareness among the public to keep the place clean.

"It should not become another neglected space as soon as it is developed and opened for public use," he said.

A DULT engineer said that all pending work would be complete in 15 to 20 days.

"The space is ideal for people who want to take a selfie here, or for cyclists who want to relax for a while as the cycle track is very close to the space being developed," he said.

6-month warranty won't cut it for roads

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Just six months ago, good roads were laid out in Kempapura village after a long wait by residents. However, their happiness was short-lived as the roads have already started to wear off.

Locals from the village in Bellandur stated that regular movement of vehicles on the road have led to it wearing off again, and the stretch is filled with potholes.

Ashok Mruthyunjaya, spokesperson of AAP, said, "The road is in a bad state. People are finding it difficult to commute or even walk as the road is gone now. The stretch is filled with slush. This is due to corruption in the government. People do not have good roads to commute on."

AAP members placing flowers around the potholes to highlight issues faced by commuters in Kempapura village

Residents pointed out that rains have made it even worse for them.

"If a two wheeler goes through the stretch, it could easily skid. People cannot even walk through one side of the stretch. It is very risky for everyone.

We have complained to the authorities but no action has been taken yet," a resident of the area told BM.

"If a two wheeler goes through the stretch, it could easily skid. People cannot even walk through one side of the stretch. It is very risky for everyone – Resident

Ashok placed flowers near the potholes to highlight the issue.

"Most of the roads in Bellandur are in a pathetic condition.

The Chalghatta road and Belathur Ambedkar Nagar village is also in a bad condition. We have requested officials to help and get the roads fixed," he said.

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Encroached footpath

Kogilu Cross

The footpath between Kogilu Cross and Kendriya Vihar has no place for walkers as it is always occupied.

Secure the drains

Nandini Layout

Unbarricaded drains like this deep SWD near the Bus Stand in Nandini Layout are very common across Bengaluru. BBMP and its contractors should put up safety barricades.

Violations galore

Nandidurga Extension

These people have tried digging twice before for a borewell in Nandidurga Extension 5th Road. They had dug up over 1,000 feet and are back again.

Rider feigns accident injury to extort ₹40,000 from techie

Two men on bike follow car they had brushed against, waylay victim, force him to withdraw money from ATM

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Two bike-borne men are said to have brushed against a car, then followed the car being driven by a 36-year-old software engineer to assault and extort him at Basavanagudi on Sunday.

"My harrowing 15 minutes began at the Netkallappa Circle in Basavanagudi where a two-wheeler came and brushed against the rear of my car. When I heard a sound I turned back and saw the bike and the riders. Nothing had happened to them so I continued with the journey," said Chiranjeevi (not his real name).

Chiranjeevi, a resident of Malleswaram, had left the house to go to his in-law's house in Banashankari to see his newborn baby and his wife, but had to return to Malleswaram when he got a call around 3 pm about the death of a relative there. He took a detour to Malleswaram through KR Road from Banashankari, which was when the run-in with the bikers happened around 3.20 pm.

After the incident, the biker began following him and when Chiranjeevi reached under the Tagore Road bridge, the bikers waylaid him. One of the riders forced open the car door and sat inside. He asked Chiranjeevi why he had not stopped his car where the accident had "injured" him on his leg.

> **I withdrew ₹10,000 four times and gave the money to them after which they threatened me to speak to no one about this** – Victim

Chiranjeevi offered him some water and asked him to show the injury to which the man declined. Chiranjeevi told him he would take him to the Kumar Hospital nearby, which the man also refused.

The other rider stopped the two-wheeler by the road and also got into the car. They then threatened Chiranjeevi with dire consequences stating they would gather more people and create a ruckus about the accident. Chiranjeevi asked them what they wanted, and they asked him how much money he had. When Chiranjeevi told them he had no money, they asked him for his debit card. He was then forced to withdraw Rs 40,000 from an ATM nearby and the duo parted with the money on their bike.

"I withdrew Rs 10,000 four times at the ATM and gave the money to them after which they threatened me to speak to no one about this," Chiranjeevi told the police.

Chiranjeevi then headed on for the last rites and approached the Basavanagudi police the next day to file a complaint. Based on his complaint, the cops have registered a case of robbery and are trying to ascertain the identities of the culprits through CCTV footage. "Both are in their early thirties and one was wearing a yellow-and-blue T-shirt, while the other in a maroon T-shirt had a long beard and moustache," Chiranjeevi told the police.

Father-son duo bashed as they awaited deity visit

Dug-up road barrier to procession at Shettihalli

A father-son duo in Shettihalli near Bagalgunte were assaulted black and blue by a group of men who had come to their village carrying a palanquin with their deity Goddess Annammadevi.

The victims' family were waiting with garlands and puja items but the procession could not reach their house as the civic authority had dug up the road to construct a drain close to their house.

The procession didn't take a round-about to their place, as they had spotted some chicken waste had spilled out of a truck passing by the area.

Sevanth, the 21-year-old son of the complainant Govindappa, went up to the procession to request the priest to wait for the family. At the time, a group of men picked up a quarrel with him. Around 10 men surrounded Sevanth and began beating and kicking him. Govindappa rushed to his son's rescue. Sevanth's mother told Bangalore Mirror the group had misunderstood her son was behind the spillage of chicken waste near the procession.

One of the assailants abused Govindappa and attacked him too. The men hit Govindappa on his back with a log and slashed him on his trunk with a sharp-edged weapon. Govindappa's elder son and brother Nagaraj who went to pacify the crowd also got beaten up. In the melee, three gold chains and Rs 32,000 in cash were allegedly stolen from them.

The police have booked eight to 10 persons.

— Bellie Thomas

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Why urban 'ecocide' must stop

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

comes down to six to eight months in a year. The animals become vulnerable too as they are exposed to poaching," said Dr Ramachandra.

The report pointed to a decline in the ecosystem value of water supply in the city. While Bengaluru's water supply was 1,729 million cum in 2005, it went down to 1,713 million cum in 2019, registering a drop of 76.7% in the ecosystem supply value.

Ecosystem value of medicinal plants went down drastically too. Bengaluru's ecosystem supply value of medicinal plants was Rs 40 million in 2005, which was down to Rs 21 million in 2019.

"To stop the forest fragmentation and improve on its services, we need to have more forest guards and officials surveilling the areas. The surveillance mechanism should be improved and data should be made public. With the advent of tech such as remote sensing, it is not a difficult task," Dr Ramachandra told BM.

The report also discussed forest ecosystem services of Karnataka; a comparison of values of services in 2005 and 2019 highlighted there has been a considerable decline in ecosystem services in the state.

While the Total Ecosystem Supply Value (TESV) of the forest ecosystem is equivalent to 18.1% of the state's GDP, there has been a 35.4% reduction in the TESV of Karnataka's forest ecosystems.

"Valuation of ecosystem services can play a vital role in conservation planning and ecosystem-based management. Forest ecosystem services in Karnataka have declined mainly due to degradation. We should take up afforestation compulsorily and revive the green cover. In the urban setting, for instance, we should think of green patches alongside the roads. All our highways and metros have come up by felling trees. The development proposal should go hand in hand with green cover ideas," added Dr Ramachandra.

Defunct DPCA set to be functional

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to the documents available with Bangalore Mirror, the KSPCA directed Jagan Kumar to appear before it at 11.30 am on September 29, 2021, and on December 16, 2021. "Why should I appear before the KSPCA? It has to inform me through a registered post whether it has the information or not," said Kumar.

Meanwhile, a senior assistant of KSPCA justified the letters written to Kumar asking him to appear before the KSPCA. "We did not violate any norms in directing Jagan Kumar to appear before the KSPCA," said the senior assistant.

Shortage of staff, space

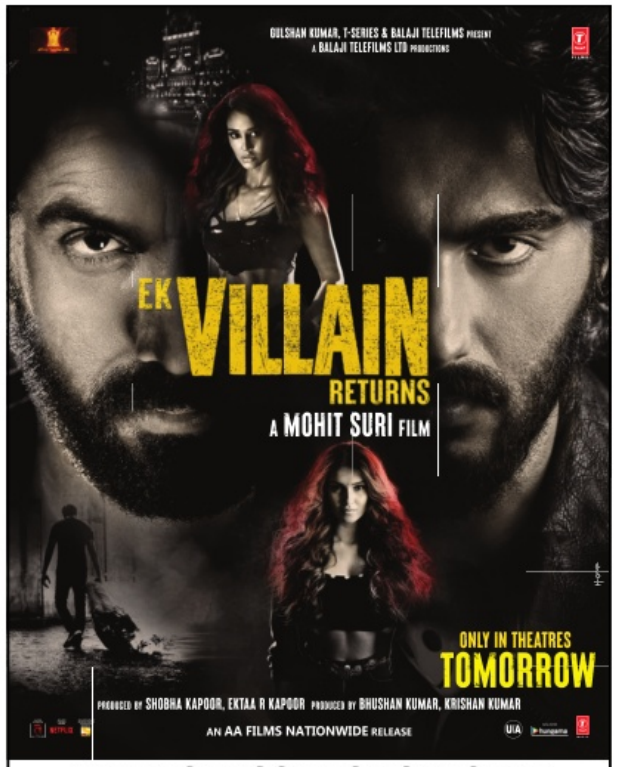
The KSPCA moved out of the Vikas Soudha to make way for minister Anand Singh in February 2020. The KSPCA office was spacious. However, now the KSPCA is accommodated on the third floor of Visvesvaraya Tower along with the Special Task Force (STF). With no sufficient space, employees are struggling to work, we are told. With no space available for the member secretary's chamber, the present member secretary (incharge) is not able to discharge his duties efficiently, according to a source. The authority is yet to take measures to fill up vacancies of two members whose term came to an end a few months ago. Moreover, the body has no accountant and three vacancies for assistants are yet to be filled up.

DPCA set to function

There is some good news for those suffering due to the defunct District Police Complaints Authority (DPCA) in Bengaluru. The additional commissioner of police is not evinced to become DPCA's member secretary as it is supposed to be headed by a deputy commissioner of police

now. The DPCA has been defunct since 2016. However, the home department amended the norm to allow a deputy commissioner of police to become the DPCA's member secretary.

The home department passed an order on June 17, 2022 stating that the deputy commissioner of police (administration) can become the secretary of DPCA, Bengaluru. "Now, the DPCA, Bengaluru is set to function on par with other DPCAs across the state," said a police official.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farnazfever

BBMP to sell flags to reach more houses

Target: 10 lakh houses to unfurl National Flag this I-Day

Sridhar.Vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike is going all out to meet the target set by the State Government that one million houses in the city will hoist the Tricolour between August 13-15. In order to ensure that 10 lakh households can procure flags, the BBMP has decided to sell flags to houses -- a decision that has not gone down all too well, but the BBMP claims it is doing this to ensure that the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign of the Central Government becomes a success.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said, "We have been given a target of hoisting 10 lakh flags in BBMP limits. To begin with, we have procured 2 lakh flags. We are also asking our suppliers to provide the rest of the flags at the earliest. The flags have been categoried as big which will be sold at Rs 25 for one piece and Rs 10 for the small flag. We will also provide tricolour stickers and also hold talks with the postal department to bring out special stamps. BBMP offices will be decorated with tricolour LED lighting."

Most of the flags to be supplied will be of polyester, citing the Centre's amendment of 2002 Flag Code of India in March this year which allows the manufacture and import of machine made polyester national flags.

BBMP Special Commissioner Rangappa (Administration) Rangappa said, "The Kannada and Culture Department has

Small flags at Rs 10; big at Rs 25 to instil 'ownership' of the flags; most of the flags will be polyester

supplied 2 lakh flags on Tuesday night. We will order for fresh printing of flags if there is a shortage of supply. We have asked our officials to hold the meetings with the resident welfare associations as well as apartment associations for selling these flags. The money collected from the sales has to be deposited in the BBMP accounts."

According to Nath the reason why BBMP is selling the flags instead of giving them for free, is to instill a sense of "ownership". "We want every Bengalurean to buy the flag and feel the pride of hoisting the national flag."

In addition to the BBMP area, the Bengaluru Urban district administration has targeted to hoist 3 lakh flags in non-BBMP areas of Bengaluru Urban district.

Report on kids left out of schools: 2 weeks sought

The State Government informed the High Court of Karnataka on Wednesday that as per its directions a committee of senior State officials has met and discussed ways and means to bring children left out of educational and the anganwadi systems into schools and shelters.

While details of the proceedings of the meeting have been submitted to the court, two weeks have been sought to file a report on it.

A public interest litigation petition by the High Court, acting

Govt tells High Court officials have met to discuss how to bring kids back to school

on its own, has senior advocate K N Phaneendra in the role of amicus curiae.

A survey conducted in rural Karnataka in October 2021 and in the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and 319 urban local body limits in March 2022 found that a total of 10.12 lakh children are out of the educational system in the State. **PTI**

Free food, stay for disabled students at BU

Saumyangi Yadav
c-saumyangi.yadav
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

BU has an empowerment cell for disabled students

Varsity aims to be more inclusive; There are 11 differently abled PG students on campus across various depts

In their most recent syndicate proceeding, Bangalore University approved a requisition to provide free food and accommodation to specially abled students at the Jnanabharati campus.

"The matter to give free accommodation and food to students with special needs was discussed in the syndicate meeting and we will be further discussing it with other committees as well. We will proceed as per the decision soon," said Dr Jayakara SM, Vice Chancellor of Bangalore University. There are 11 differently abled postgraduate students on the campus across various departments.

Dr SY Surendra Kumar, former director of the Empowerment Cell For Differently Abled and Professor, Department of Political Science at Bangalore University told Bangalore Mirror, "Though there is reservation for differently abled students in every department as per the PwD Act 2016, there are very few students taking admission. Our university is trying to be more inclusive for the differently abled. We have updated our library for students with special needs. For example, we have a Braille Resource Centre for visually challenged students and also audio-based study material. A disabled-friendly software is also being installed at the Jnanabharathi campus library."

Dr Kumar added that if the government doesn't fund the free facilities, the university will be bearing the cost of it.

"Bangalore University is one of the few universities that has a separate empowerment cell for disabled students. Except for big colleges like IIT and JNU, there are few others. In Karnataka also only two universities have it," he added

The professor added that these concessions are also extended to students from the SC/ST category at the university. Affiliated Degree colleges have been given financial assistance ranging from Rs 25,000 to Rs 75,000 to buy books for their libraries for the use of SC/ST students.

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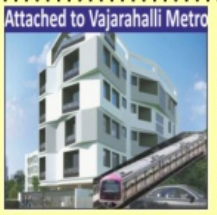

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Wild ride for a cause: Are you ready?

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Get set to embark on a 4,100-km bicycle ride to support and conserve wildlife and forest, an initiative undertaken by wildlife lovers and bicycle enthusiasts of the city starting from July 29. The ride will cover different forest locations across Karantaka.

The Wilderness on Wheels (Voice of the Voiceless), in association with Karnataka Forest Department, will host Tour De Karnataka that will allow participants to go the ride. In the first phase, riders can ride up to 4,100 km, which will be split into different locations and distance starting from 50km, 100 km and 200 km, to include unlimited bicycle riders. For the 300, 400, 500, 600, 800 and 1,100 km rides, only 32 riders will be allowed.

In the second phase, four riders will go throughout the states and union territories of India to cover the entire India.

The event will be flagged off on July 29 and will be go up till October 4 till the wildlife week. The ride aims to create awareness on the conservation of forest and wildlife and also to amend the animal protection laws in India for both Wildlife and Domestic.

Sandeep VS from Reroute Integrated Fitness, Wilderness on Wheels- Voice of the voiceless said, "The rides will range from 50 km to 1,100 km and will be fully supported rides. Participants have the option to be part of the complete event or select individual rides as per their convenience and be part of the much bigger cause. The riders can give us their views on what changes can be done to protest forest and even wildlife, all of it will be considered and discussed with forest officials. In the second phase, the four riders will meet the Chief Minister of the states and discuss it with them."

The team will cover important forest locations and will only ride to the reserves and not inside any reserves or protected areas. The locations planned for the rides are Bannerghatta National Park, Bilikallu Rangaswamy Betta, Avalbetta, Chikkaballapur, BRT Tiger Reserve, Bandipur Tiger Reserve.

Nagarhole Tiger Reserve, Bhadra Tiger Reserve and Anshi Tiger Reserve.

Last year, the Tour de Karnataka covered only about 2,300 km due to the pandemic.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, RAHUL POTTI PRAKASH POTTY alias RAHUL POTTI, Resident of #722, Tower 6, Sai Poorna Luxuria, Haralur Main Road Kudlu, Kaveri Layout Reliable Tranquil Layout Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560068 have changed my name as RAHUL POTTI P, vide affidavit dated 27.07.2022 sworn before notary Rajanna S.M. Bengaluru.

I, NIKITA KALAL, W/o, Rakesh Pasalkar and residing at M G Housing Colony, 1st Cross, Dharwad Bypass Road, Behind Mobile Tower, Bailhongal Post, Belgaum 591102 (Now Camp at Bangalore) have changed my name to NIKITA PASALKAR vide affidavit dated 16.06.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhushana, Bangalore

I, SATHYA SARVANAN KALI RAMU, S/o, RAMU KALI and residing at Flat No.11/1, 1st Floor, Krishna Temple Road, Old Binnamangala, Indira nagar, Bangalore 560038 have changed my name to SATHYA SARVANA KALI RAMU vide affidavit dated 22.07.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhu shana, Bangalore

I, IMDADULLA, S/o, Abdul Malik Gundu and residing at No.15, 3rd Cross, St Mary's Layout, Nagawara, Bangalore 560045 have changed my name to IMDADULLA IMDAD vide affidavit dated 27.07.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhu shana, Bangalore

I, Prathibha Babu W/o T. S. Babu R/o FD-116, Behind SOQ, HAL senior officers enclave. SG Palya, CV Raman nagar, B'luru 560093 have changed my name to PRATHIBHA DURGAPPA affidavit Dt.27/07/2022 notary K.V Mani, B'luru for document update purpose

I, P Gopinath S/o Venugopal R/o 1403 Aastha Valmark; Bannerghatta Rd, Meenakshi Temple, Kalena Agrahara, Huli-mavu, Bangalore 560076 have changed my name to Gopinath Pullot for all purposes.

I J. Jeyarani W/O, Vijay Neethiraj R/o No 20 2nd Cross Gowdanpalya Subramanyapura 560061 have changed my name to Jeyarani V

I Rajiv Ranjan Kumar S/O, Shyamanand Singh R/o Hs No. 121,sukriti Nilaya, 2nd Cross, Lakshmisagar Layout, Mahadevpura, Bangalore-560048 have changed my name to Rajeev Ranjan Kumar

I, RAKESH GORANNA PASALKAR, S/o, Goranna Pasalkar and residing at M G Housing Colony, 1st Cross, Dharwad Bypass Road, Behind Mobile Tower, Bailhongal Post, Belgaum 591102 (Now Camp at Bangalore) have changed my name to RAKESH PASALKAR vide affidavit dated 16.06.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhushana, Bangalore

I, DURGARAJU, S/o, Sathyanarayana Bollam and residing at No.197/196/1, Shabari Building, 1st Main Road, Singapura Garden, Abbigere, Bangalore 560090 have changed my name to DURGA RAJU BOLLAM vide affidavit dated 27.06.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhu shana, Bangalore

I, PRASHANTHA DSOUZA VORKADY, S/o, Victor Charly Dsouza and residing at Chavala House, Post Vorkady, Manjeshwar, Kasaragod 671323, Kerala, India (Now Camp at Bangalore) have changed my name to PRASHANTHA DSOUZA vide affidavit dated 20.06.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhushana, Bangalore

I, Ganeshappa Mayananavar S/o Siddappa R/o #7, Ekadantha Nilaya, Opp ganapathi temple, Jnanabhara-thi Lyt, 1st Block, Bengaluru 560060 have changed my name to GANESH SIDDAPPA MAYANNANAVAR (GANESH S.M) affidavit Dt.27/07/2022 notary K.V Mani, B'luru

I, Dipika Sanghvi W/o Rushil Rajendra Sanghvi R/at Inland Everglade Apartment, B Block, Flat No.220, Maruthi Layout, Hebbal Kempapura, Bengaluru-560024 have changed my name to Dipika Rushil Sanghvi vide affidavit dated: 27th July 2022 sworn before Notary Uday Kumar K, Blr.

I, Rinki Balani, W/o, Anil Tolani and residing at Flat No.104, Adhvika Fantasia, 6th E Cross, Kaggadasapura, C.V Raman Nagar, Bangalore 560093 have changed my name to Meghal Tolani vide affidavit dated 27.07.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhushana, Bangalore

I, PRACHI RORA R/o 6, Siri Nilaya, Amma Samruddhi Layout, Backside Subhiksha Garden, R.T Nagar D-Zone, Kergalli, Mysuru, Karnataka-570026 have changed my name to PRACHI ROHRA

I, HITESH RORA R/o 6, Siri Nilaya, Amma Samruddhi Layout, Backside Subhiksha Garden, R.T Nagar D-Zone, Kergalli, Mysuru, Karnataka-570026 have changed my name to HITESH ROHRA

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www.canadiancrystalline.com | www.seppasolutions.com | www.prodebbrewery.com
93848 06103
93848 06101

Centre issues guidelines for monkeypox

The Centre on Wednesday announced comprehensive guidelines for monkeypox patients and their contacts. A 21-day isolation, wearing masks, following hand hygiene, keeping lesions fully covered and waiting for those to fully heal are among the guidelines. The national capital has reported one confirmed case of monkeypox, taking the total number of such patients in the country to four.

The missive also states that health workers who have unprotected exposure to monkeypox patients or contaminated materials need not be excluded from duty if asymptomatic but should undergo surveillance for symptoms for 21 days.

A guard stands at the entrance of an isolation ward for monkeypox patients at a government hospital in Hyderabad

Monkeypox is a viral zoonosis - that gets transmitted to humans from animals - with symptoms similar to those seen in smallpox patients, albeit clinically less severe. Officials, however, said there is no need to panic. One has to stay in isolation for 21 days from the last contact with a monkeypox patient or their contaminated materials, they said.

The infected person should wear a triple-ply mask while the skin lesions should be covered to the best extent possible. It stated that patients should remain in isolation until all lesions have healed and the scabs completely fallen off.

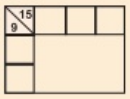
On how to identify a contact, an official said a person who comes in contact with an infected person through face-to-face exposure, direct physical contact, or comes in contact with contaminated materials such as clothing or bedding is identified as a primary contact. "District surveillance teams ask contacts to self-monitor their symptoms. Preferably, the contacts should isolate themselves in separate rooms," an official said. The official also said the asymptomatic contacts should not donate blood, cells, tissues, organs or semen while under surveillance. **– ET & Agencies**

Calling all vaccine-makers

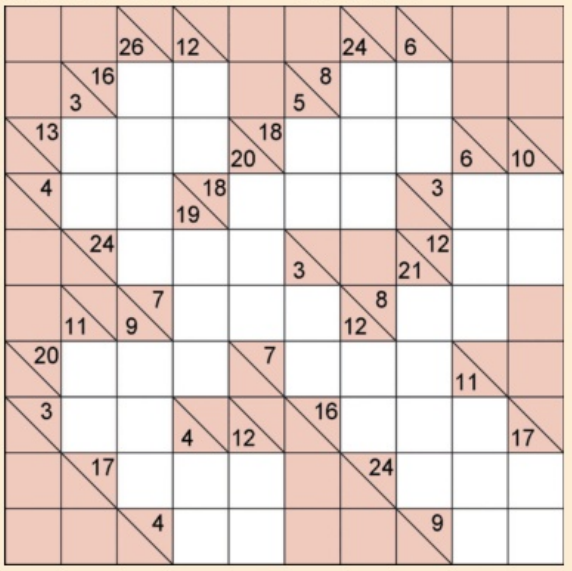
The National Institute of Virology (NIV) in Pune under ICMR has isolated monkeypox virus from the clinical specimen of a patient that can pave the way for development of diagnostic kits and vaccines against the disease, officials said on Wednesday. The Indian Council of Medical Research also invited expression of interest (EOI) from experienced vaccine manufacturers, pharma companies, research and development institutions and in-vitro diagnostic (IVD) kit manufacturers for joint collaboration in development of vaccine candidate against monkeypox and diagnostic kits.

Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Linemaro

Turn around, see her and say, 'Oh, that's why my heart suddenly started beating fast'

Mindchow

The greatest gift of the garden is the restoration of the five senses

Joke of the day

I went down the local supermarket, and said "I want to make a complaint, this vinegar's got lumps in it". He said, "Those are pickled onions"

Loop

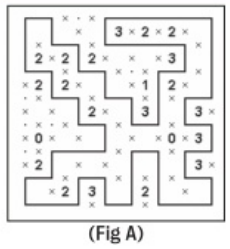
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

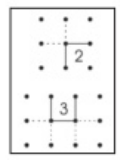
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

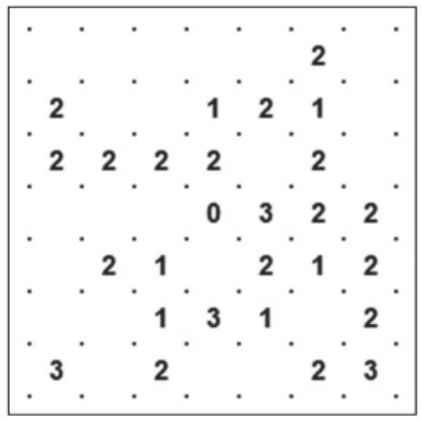
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



SudokuChallenge

4								5
		6	5		3	1		
	3	5	2		1	4	6	
	4			2			8	
	7			9			2	
	1	4	3		8	6	5	
		7	4		6	2		
6								4

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

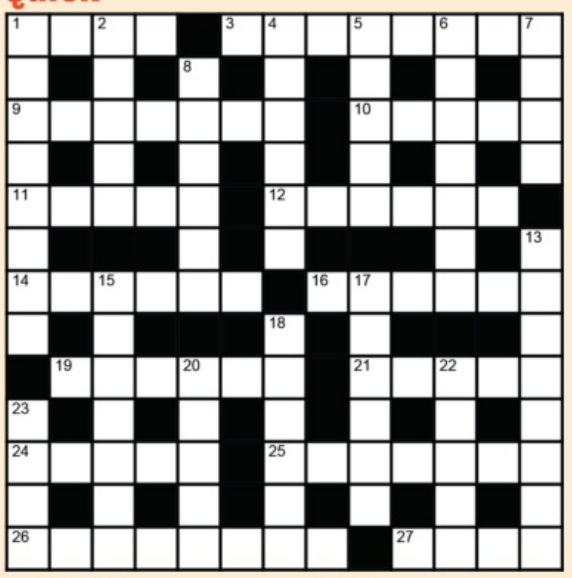
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 18
8 8 9 9

Medium = 40
2 8 8 9

Hard = 53
1 6 8 5

Quick



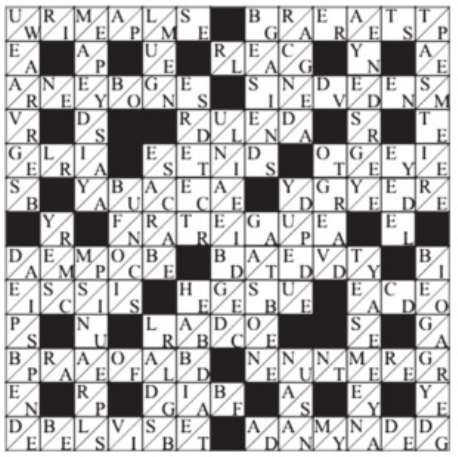
ACROSS

1 Peddle or vend (4)
3 Recklessly wasteful (8)
9 Being subsequent (7)
10 Animal type (5)
11 Intestinal bacteria (1,4)
12 One or the other (6)
14 With maximum effort? (3,3)
16 ___ __ measure: Bespoke (4,2)
19 Free from liability (6)
21 Thin silk fabric (5)
24 Where beer guzzling classic rockers hang out off Brigade Road (5)
25 Spray from a can? (7)
26 Handcuffs (8)
27 Not as new (4)

DOWN

1 Skin-and-bone (8)
2 Rope with a noose (5)
4 Fixed a match (6)
5 First appearance (5)
6 Swiss cheese (7)
7 Legal claim (4)
8 Environment or surroundings (6)
13 Sang like a Swiss Highlander might? (8)
15 Dictionary or book of words (7)
17 Makes changes (6)
18 Military command (2,4)
20 Sonic art form (5)
22 Endures (5)
23 Unwanted e-mail (4)

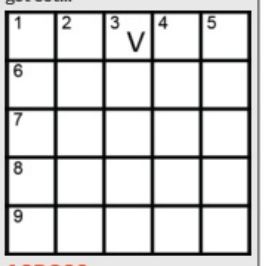
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



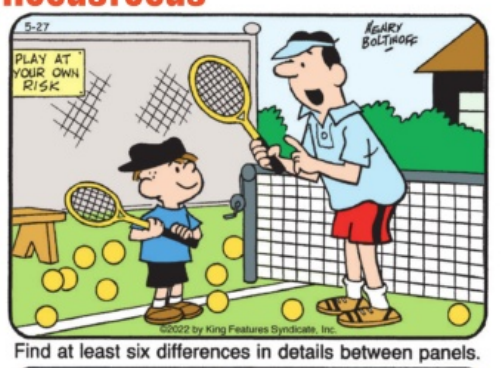
ACROSS

1 A Slav; 6 I dost; 7 A grad; 8 Topic; 9 Tucks

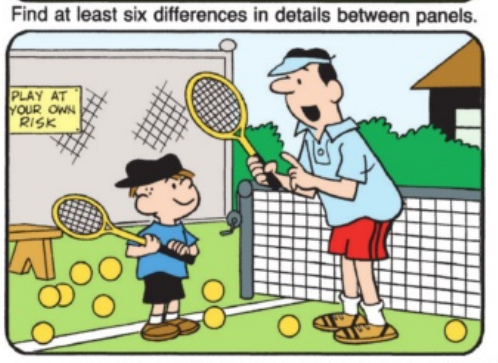
DOWN

1 Log so; 2 Pad at; 3 IV rut; 4 Acids; 5 Tacks

Hocusfocus



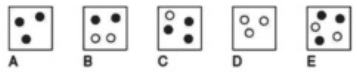
Find at least six differences in details between panels.

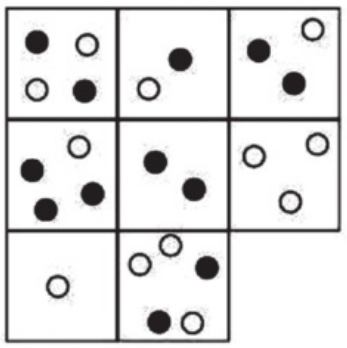


Differences: 1. Ball is missing. 2. Racket is longer. 3. Stripe on shorts is different. 4. Fence is not as wide. 5. Sign on fence is lower. 6. Bottom of shirt is different.

Mensapuzzle

Which is the missing tile?



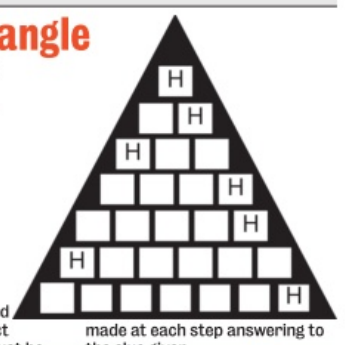


Riddler

You have been given three quotations with their vowels removed. Can you figure out the quotations?
1. Mnds r lk prchts–th nl fnctn whn pn.
2. Bwr f smll xpnss, smll lk wll snk grt shp.
3. Prblms cnnt b slvd t th sm lvl f wrnss tht crtd thm.

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number 1
2 Hesitant sound
3 "The _ , " Boston
4 41 st president
5 Brief contact
6 Arrogance
7 Polish



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

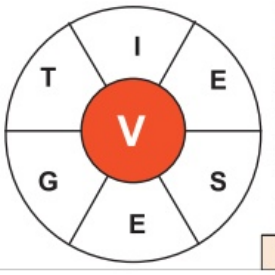
Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: B EQUALS U

PRB WBVJ XHCURWH UQOESH OV JQH TBCH YBJ ERJ OV PRBT TBCHT.

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; 03 Good; 04 Outstanding

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

I WENT BACK AND PROPPED THE DOOR OPEN FOR THE GHOST HUNT
HELPING US BREAK INTO THE THEATER IS A DECENT APOLOGY
HMM... OKAY. NO HARM DONE.
BESIDES, THIS IS A ROCK-SOLID FRIEND GROUP.
CONGRATS.
IS SHE ALWAYS THIS SARCASTIC?
USUALLY MORE SO.

Crankshaft

CAN I VOTE FOR LILLIAN'S BOOK ONLINE?
YES... BUT I THINK YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVE YOU'VE READ LILLIAN'S BOOK FIRST.
THAT'S VOTER SUPPRESSION!
BATIUK & DAVIS
crankshaftcomic.com/books

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may be able to implement business plans successfully with support from your subordinates. You may be involved in some social or family get-together that can boost your network. You are likely to go for short business-related trips, which may benefit you in the near future.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today is a good day and your financial health is likely to be good. You may get benefits from past investments. You may have control over your expenditure on worthless items, which may boost your savings. Love birds are advised to be polite in conversation with their partner, otherwise there may be conflict between them.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may be busy with issues related to siblings and relatives. You may plan to start a new venture with the help of your siblings and network. You are likely to get an order which may increase your family business. Your network may help you to complete your task successfully. There may be some smart gains after minimal efforts.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may feel negative due to sleeplessness from last night. You could feel dull, which may reflect into your way of working. It is advised to postpone investments in work. You may be a victim of conspiracy and are advised to keep an eye on opponents and rivals. Lovebirds are advised to keep patience and avoid unnecessary arguments.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be blessed by the moon. You may get some big orders with the help of overseas contacts. You may face some moments where you feel anxiety, but you will be able to keep your control over it. Students are likely to study their subjects thoroughly. Investors are advised to make long-term investment for fruitful gains.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may be busy at work. You may face some difficulties in completion of a task and it can make you upset. However, with help from elders, you will come out of this messy situation. Workload can make you feel tired. You may not be able to give time to your family, but your siblings are likely to support you and maintain domestic harmony.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today things are under control. Last day's crunch may be over now. You may feel calm and cool. Your focus towards your goals may be good. You may enjoy your work. Your disputes in partnerships might be settled now. Litigation in property-related matters is likely to be resolved. You may also share romantic moments with your loved one.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today is not a good day for you. You may be a victim of negative thoughts. You may be impatient. Your arrogance may push you back from making difficult decisions. Your life seems to stop somewhere and you may be in need of help from your elders. This may help you come back from the messy situation. You should avoid making investments in dead assets. Lovebirds should avoid worthless topics.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you are blessed by the moon and may hear some good news in terms of work. You are likely to enjoy your domestic life in full swing. You are advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics. Excitement may test your patience. You can make important decisions about investing in assets. Students are advised to be focused in their studies.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today is good for your work. You may perform well in terms of work. Your boss may give you some responsibility in terms of promotions. Your rivals and opponents are now under control. You may lend money for creating your assets. You are likely to plan to make some investments for your kid's future.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may feel very dull. It can make you lazy and careless and you are likely to lose focus at work. Impatience can pull you down negatively. Health of your kids and spouse can make you upset. You should avoid investing in assets. Lovebirds should avoid arguments in family matters.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may find negative vibrations around you which can make you unhappy. You are advised to avoid investments on worthless assets. Your friends are not likely to be supportive today, so you should not expect much help from them. Follow your intuition before making important decisions today.

KIDZONE

Dhruva R, 6 Years, Little Angles School

Kaveri, 8 Years, Indus International School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

BULL'S EYE
give, sieve, vest, VESTIGE

RIDDLER
1. Minds are like parachutes – they only function when open.
2. Beware of small expenses, a small leak will sink a great ship.
3. Problems cannot be solved at the same level of awareness that created them.

QUOTE UNCODE
You must welcome change as the rule but not as your ruler.

FAST FIVE

S	T	U	C	K
O	P	T	I	C
G	A	R	D	A
O	D	I	S	T
L	A	V	A	S

STRIKE OUT

W	I	M	P	L	E		B	A	R	E	S	T		
E		A		E		L	A	G		N		A		
A	N	Y	O	N	E		S	E	V	E	N	S		
V		D		R	U	E	D		R		T			
E	R	A		S	E	N	D		O	G	E	E		
S		Y	U	C	C	A		D	R	Y	E	R		
	Y		F	A	T	I	G	U	E		L			
D	E	M	O	B		D	A	D		Y		B		
I	S	I	S		H	E	B	E		E	C	O		
P		N		R	A	D	O		S		G			
P	R	E	F	A	B		N	U	T	M	E	G		
E		R		E		B		O		G		E		
D	E	S	I	S	T		D	A	M	N	E	D		

QUICK

S	E	L	L		P	R	O	D	I	G	A	L		
K		A		M		I		E		I		A		
E	N	S	U	I	N	G		B	R	U	T	E		
L		S		L		G		U		Y		N		
E	C	O	L		E		I	T	H	E	R			
A	L	L	O	U	T		M	A	D	E	T	O		
		T		E		D			R			Y		
L			E		I		A			L		D		
S		I		U		E			A		T	U	L	L
E	X	E	M	P	T			T	U	L	L	E		
L			E		A			L				D		
P	E	C	O	S		A	E	R	O	S	O	L		
S		I		U		E			A			L		
E	N	S	U	I	N	G		B	R	U	T	E		
L		S		L		G		U		Y		N		
E	C	O	L		E		I	T	H	E	R			
A		O		I		S			E		T	E		
M	A	N	A	C	L	E	S		U	S	E	D		

MENSA PUZZLE
A: each line across and down contains five black dots and four white dots;

SOLVE IN 1M
= 7^0+6^0-(6+7)^0
= 7^0+6^0-(13)^0
= 1+1-1
= 2-1 = 1

SUDOKU

6	5	8	9	1	2	3	7	4
3	9	7	4	5	6	2	1	8
2	1	4	3	7	8	6	5	9
8	7	3	1	9	4	5	2	6
5	6	2	8	3	7	9	4	1
1	4	9	6	2	5	7	8	3
9	3	5	2	8	1	4	6	7
7	8	6	5	4	3	1	9	2
4	2	1	7	6	9	8	3	5

ALPHA TRIANGLE
H, Uh, Hub, Bush, Brush, Hubris, Burnish.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 9 + 9 − 8 = 18
Medium
9 × 8 + 8 / 2 = 40
Hard
8 × 6 × 1 + 5 = 53

LOOP

KAKURO

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Disha-Tiger are thick buddies: Jackie

Reports are doing the rounds that IT couple Disha Patani and Tiger Shroff have ended their six-year long relationship. It's said that the two weren't going too strong all through the last year and finally decided to part ways earlier this year.

Bombay Times reached out to Jackie Shroff who's always spoken highly about Disha as family. He reacted saying, "They (Tiger and Disha) have always been friends and are still friends. I have seen them go out together. Not that I keep track of my son's love life (laughs). That's the last thing I want to do, like infringe into their privacy. But I feel that they are thick buddies. They spend time with each other besides work."

Jackie further shares that it is their personal life and they got to decide how to go about it. He opines, "See, it is up to them whether they are together or not, whether they are compatible (with each other) or not. It is their love story, like me and my wife (Ayesha) have our love story. We share a good equation with Disha. And like I said, they are happy together like they meet, talk etc."

-Onkar Kulkarni

Coffee? No thanks

Find out why Deepika decided to give Karan Johar's chat show a miss

Karan Johar's chat show Koffee With Karan is in its seventh Season and it has always featured the crème de la crème of the film industry. The biggest stars have always featured on the couch with Karan and spoken their minds. But this season, one big name is missing from the illustrious guest list. That name is Deepika Padukone.

Sources have revealed to ETimes that Deepika was offered a personal invitation by Karan to feature on one of the episodes. The actress was persuaded but she chose to stay away from this season of the shwo. The source said, "DP just didn't say a 'yes'." It seems, the star actress just couldn't find enough reason to be part of the show.

The first episode of the show this season featured Ranveer Singh, who made many revelations, which included how he had saved Deepika's number in his phone. Ranveer had also confessed that Deepika's mother Ujjala Padukone didn't know what to make of Ranveer, but over the years they've warmed upto each other.

It would have been interesting to hear more revelations from Deepika. In fact, recently, Karan had admitted that the 2010 episode featuring Deepika and Sonam Kapoor was one of his all-time talked-about episodes. It was when Deepika and Sonam had made lots of statements about Ranbir Kapoor and stars.

We wonder why DP gave this season of KWK a miss. Perhaps she didn't want to court controversy like it happened back in 2010. Or perhaps she just didn't want to engage in conversations around her relationships. After his episode on KWK, Ranveer has had enough of a tryst with controversy and that too could have played on her mind. We surely will miss a good conversation.

—ETimes

'It's foolish to remake a classic'

Director Anurag Kashyap on Wednesday said his forthcoming feature with actor Kriti Sanon is neither a remake nor a homage to Quentin Tarantino's 2003 classic "Kill Bill".

Kashyap, a self-described admirer of Tarantino, was reported to direct the Hindi version of the American martials arts drama which starred Uma Thurman as an assassin seeking revenge. "It's not a remake, it's not even a homage. You'll get to know (what it is) when I make it. It's foolish to remake a classic. That film is already there and is a big classic, why remake that?" the director told reporters here.

Kashyap was recently spotted with Sanon, where he was seen wearing a T-shirt which had both, "Kill Bill" and the name of the Rekha-starrer "Khoon Bhari Maang" embossed on it. The filmmaker teased his project could be closer to a modern-day spin on 1988's "Khoon Bhari Maang", which was also a revenge drama. "If you had seen my T-shirt which I had worn during the announcement, it had 'Kill Bill' and 'Khoon Bhari Maang' on it. 'Khoon Bhari Maang' was actually made before 'Kill Bill'. So there's no point telling what I'm making. When I make it, you watch, decide and tell me."

-PTI

DiCaprio's 'Killers of the Flower Moon' to release in 2023

Filmmaker Martin Scorsese's western drama 'Killers of the Flower Moon', starring Hollywood star Leonardo DiCaprio, will be hitting the silver screen in 2023.

Written by Eric Roth and adapted from the best-selling novel 'Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI' by David Grann, the film had been originally slated for 2023 by Apple, reports 'Variety'.

However, discussions between the filmmaker and the studio over bumping up the film's release to 2022 occurred after Will Smith's actions at the Oscars earlier this year changed Apple's release strategy for its Smith-starring slavery drama 'Emancipation'.

-IANS